

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for an interactive media services system to provide media to a user through an interactive media services client device, said client device coupled to a programmable media services server device, said method comprising steps of:

implementing an interactive media guide;  
implementing said client device to present said interactive media guide to said user;  
providing a system operator with an interface to said programmable media services server; and

providing control options within said interface to allow said system operator to set a plurality of parameters concerning bandwidth usage;

terminating a media session through said interactive media services system if one of a plurality of client device and system variables comprises a timeout, said timeout occurring when said media session has been in a stop state for a period equal to a stop timeout parameter configured as one of said plurality of parameters concerning bandwidth usage; and

forcing said client device to present a main screen of said interactive media guide after said media session is fully terminated, allowing bandwidth to be allocated elsewhere.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2-1~~, wherein said ~~termination procedure terminating step~~ involves said interactive media services system keeping said media session active until the end of a rental duration period assigned to said media session independent of the behavior of any of a plurality of client device and system variables.

4. (Cancelled)

5. The method of claim ~~4-1~~, wherein ~~another~~ one of said plurality of client device and system variables comprises ~~a~~ another timeout, said ~~other~~ timeout occurring when said media session has been in a pause state for a period equal to a pause timeout parameter configured as one of said plurality of parameters concerning bandwidth usage.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said period is equal to said pause timeout parameter, client device is forced to present a stop state and said media session is halted.

Claims 7-10 (Cancelled)

Claims 11-44 (Withdrawn)

45. (New) A method for an interactive media services system to provide media to a user through an interactive media services client device, said client device coupled to a programmable media services server device, said method comprising steps of:

implementing an interactive media guide;  
implementing said client device to present said interactive media guide to said user;  
providing a system operator with an interface to said programmable media services server;  
providing control options within said interface to allow said system operator to set a plurality of parameters concerning bandwidth usage; and  
comparing a cancellation period to one of said plurality of parameters concerning bandwidth usage regarding a no charge cancellation period, if a cancellation period is less than said no charge cancellation period a purchase fee assigned to said user for a media session is erased from billing record.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said interactive media services system keeps said media session active until the end of a rental duration period assigned to said media session independent of the behavior of any of a plurality of client device and system variables.